Atty. Ref. 3279-Z

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of

Richard J. Feldmann

Art Unit 2857

Application No. 10/609,383

Examiner John S. Brusca

Filed: July 1, 2003

For: Modifying the control of gene expression behavior by the deletion of connectrons and by the design and addition of synthetic connectrons in prokaryotic, archea and eukaryotic

genomes

## RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed December 9, 2005, applicant hereby elects to prosecute in this application:

Group 1 claims, namely, claims 1 and 2.

(Contrary to the Examiner's contention that the Group 1 invention does not utilize or produce products of Group 2 or 3, applicant submits that the product of Groups 2 or 3 can be produced by the methods defined by claims 1 and 2.)

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Zegeer, Reg. No. 18,957 Attorney for Applicant

Suite 108 801 North Pitt Street Alexandria, VA 22314 Telephone: 703-684-8333

Date: January 9, 2006

In the event this paper is deemed not timely filed, the applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 26-0090 along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.